

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 076017

SUBJ: ROMANIAN FINE ARTS EXHIBIT

REF: BUCHAREST 1413- C

1. SINCE WE ALL AGREE IN PRINCIPLE THAT USG WILL PAY INTERNAL (U. S.) TRANSPORTATION COSTS FOR ROMANIAN FINE ARTS EXHIBIT, WE TRUST THAT ILEASA AND COUNCIL ARE NOW FOCUSSED ON TIMELY SHIPMENT OF PAINTINGS AND RELATED MATERIALS TO REACH WASHINGTON BY JUNE 4 FOR JUNE 15 OPENING AT CORCORAN AS RECOMMENDED IN KARCH' S EXCELLENTLY DETAILED MEMO (PARA 17) OF MAR 26 TO SES DIRECTOR STEFAN.

2. EMBASSY MAY WISH TO REVIEW THAT MEMO FOR OTHER " ACTION ITEMS" FOR COUNCIL, E. G., (A) RE CATALOGUES (PARA 14); (B) HIRING OF ADDITIONAL PROJECTORS, IF DESIRED (PARA 15); (C) ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SALE OF CATALOGUES (PARA 16); (D) ASSURANCES RE INSURANCE (PARA 23) (N. B. THIS MATTER OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO MINNESOTA MUSEUM OF ART.), AND ANY OTHER POINTS EMBASSY BELIEVES SHOULD BE CALLED TO COUNCIL' S ATTENTION.

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EM SEPTTEL WILL PROPOSE DETAILS OF TRADE- OFF ARRANGEMENTS FOR INTERNAL TRANSPORTATION AND CURATOR COSTS WHICH MUST BE STUDIED FURTHER TO ASSURE THAT AGREEMENT COMBINING PROVISIONS (AND EXCEPTIONS) RE ARTICLES VI.1, VI.2 AND IMPLEMENTING CONDITIONS ARE COMPATIBLE WITH LONG RANGE INTERESTS ON BOTH SIDES. WE HAVE CERTAIN RESERVATIONS AT THIS TIME RE SIMPLE TRADE- OFF BETWEEN ROMANIAN FINE ARTS AND US AMON CARTER (PLUS ANOTHER EXHIBIT TO BE SPECIFIED TO PROVIDE FOR MORE THAN TOKEN RECIPROCITY) UNDER VI.2, BECAUSE OF CURATOR COSTS FOR WHICH THERE IS NO PROVISION IN IMPLEMENTING CONDITIONS (WHICH REFER EXCLUSIVELY TO VI.1.). MOREOVER, WE TEND TO QUESTION ILEASA'S ASSERTION HE IS " VIRTUALLY CERTAIN GOR WILL NOT OR CANNOT MOUNT ANY MORE" EXHIBITS DURING PERIOD OF CURRENT AGREEMENT (REFTTEL, PARA 6) SINCE MITRAN AND OTHERS FROM ROMANIAN EMBASSY HERE (INCLUDING AMBASSADOR BOGDAN) HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING WITH US FOR SOME TIME POSSIBILITIES OF SENDING ROMANIAN TREASURES EXHIBIT TO US, A POSSIBILITY NEITHER SIDE SHOULD PRECLUDE BY TOO EXPEDITIOUS SETTLEMENT OF ISSUE OF INTERNAL (U. S.) TRANSPORTATION COSTS FOR ROMANIAN FINE ARTS. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY THOUGHTS YOU MAY HAVE ON THESE CONSIDERATIONS, ALTHOUGH YOU MAY WISH TO AWAIT SEPTTEL ON DETAILS OF PROPOSED TRADE- OFF AFTER WE HAVE WORKED THEM OUT HERE.

4. FYI. INTERESTING TO NOTE ROMANIAN EMBASSY EXPRESSION OF UMBRAGE TO COUNCIL FOR LATTER' S REF TO " UNCLEAR ARTICLES" IN NOTE VERBALE (REFTTEL, PARA D) SINCE WE CONSCIOUSLY AVOIDED ANY REFERENCE TO OUR DISCOMFORT OVER THAT EXPRESSION IN OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH MITRAN AND PLOSCARU. END FYI.

5. WE WILL, OF COURSE, TAKE INTO ACCOUNT FUNCTIONAL LIMITATIONS OF COUNCIL IN DEALING WITH GOR BUREAUCRACY (REFTTEL, PARA 3) IN FORMULATING OUR PROPOSED TRADE- OFF. ROGERS

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